

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 694

By Watson

A RESOLUTION to honor and commend the University of Tennessee at Chattanooga Mocs wrestling team for winning the SoCon Tournament championship.

WHEREAS, it is fitting that the members of this General Assembly should salute those student athletes who, through their extraordinary efforts, have distinguished themselves as true sportsmen of whom all can be proud; and

WHEREAS, the members of the University of Tennessee at Chattanooga (UTC) wrestling team have proven themselves to be the ablest of competitors and, as such, deserving of the highest regard; and

WHEREAS, the team capped an already-stellar season with its twenty-sixth Southern Conference (SoCon) Tournament championship win, defeating second-place Appalachian State University by nearly thirty points with a score of 102 at UTC's McKenzie Arena on March 3, 2012; and

WHEREAS, eight UTC Mocs teammates advanced to the championship matches and one more made it to the consolation finals, four of whom won individual trophies; and

WHEREAS, SoCon Freshman of the Year Nick Soto won the 133 weight class, junior Dean Pavlou won the 149 weight class (his second career SoCon Championship), senior Dan Waddell won the 157 weight class (his second career SoCon Championship), and senior Brandon Wright won the 165 weight class, securing his second straight league trophy; and

WHEREAS, the Mocs had four runners-up, including senior Manny Ramirez, sophomore Shawn Greevy, junior Robert Prigmore, and freshman Kevin Malone; and

WHEREAS, sophomore Levi Clemons placed third in the 174 weight class and junior Niko Brown courageously battled injuries throughout the day; and

WHEREAS, the team's victory surely bodes well for their future success at the 2012 National Collegiate Athletic Association (NCAA) Championships, which are set for March 15-17 at the Scottrade Center in St. Louis, Missouri, in which Nick Soto, Dean Pavlou, Dan Waddell, Brandon Wright, and Levi Clemons will all be competing and proudly representing UTC; and

WHEREAS, the UTC Mocs wrestling team, in both victory and defeat, has displayed the tenacity, camaraderie and skill befitting one of the State's finest athletic teams; and

WHEREAS, this General Assembly finds it appropriate to pause in its deliberations to acknowledge and applaud the UTC Mocs wrestling team, not only for the team's championship win, but for the players' superior sportsmanship and the joy they have brought to their fellow students and the people of Tennessee; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED SEVENTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING, that we honor and congratulate the University of Tennessee at Chattanooga Mocs wrestling team upon winning the SoCon Tournament championship, and wish them the best of luck as they advance to the NCAA Championships.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.